

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 09066
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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNFPA, UNDP, EAID
SUBJECT: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL -- UNFPA PROJECT
FOR VIETNAM

REF: (A) STATE 148871; (B) USUN 2452

1. SUMMARY: UNFPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SALAS HAS PROPOSED FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENT WITH REQUEST TO VIETNAM PROJECT WHICH HE HOPED WOULD MEET U.S. MISGIVINGS AND OBJECTIONS: WITH THE ACQUIESCENCE OF JAPAN AND VIETNAM, SALAS WOULD REQUEST COUNCIL APPROVAL OF PROJECT ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE POPULATION REDISTRIBUTION COMPONENTS (I.E. THOSE ELEMENTS SPECIFICALLY CITED IN MAYNES-SALAS LETTER) WOULD BE FUNDED FROM AN EARMARKED CONTRIBUTION FROM JAPAN AND NOT FROM GENERAL RESOURCES OF UNFPA. SALAS HOPED SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WOULD MEET U.S. CONCERNS. US DEL SAID IT WOULD IMMEDIATELY TRANSMIT SALAS' PROPOSAL TO DEPARTMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JUNE 14 UNFPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SALAS HELD TWO MEETINGS WITH USDEL DURING WHICH HE EXPOUNDED POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENT DESIGNED TO MEET U.S. MISGIVINGS AND OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED VIETNAM POPULATION PROJECT. ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS: JAPAN WOULD BE ASKED TO AGREE TO EARMARK A PROPORTION OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO
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UNFPA SPECIFICALLY FOR USE IN ASIAN COUNTRIES AND EXPLICITLY INTER ALIA FOR ACTIVITIES RELATING TO POPULATION DISTRIBUTION. SUCH JAPANESE EARMARKED FUNDS WOULD BE USED TO FUND POPULATION REDISTRIBUTION COMPONENTS OF VIETNAM PROJECT (I.E. THOSE ELEMENTS WHICH WERE CITED IN MAYNES-SALAS LETTER). NO PART OF GENERAL UNFPA RESOURCES WOULD BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE. SALAS HAD

DISCUSSED THIS PROPOSAL WITH JAPANESE REP TO GOVERNING COUNCIL (AKASHI) WHO HAD PROMISED TO CONSULT WITH GOJ. SALAS INDICATED HE WAS ALSO PURSUING JAPANESE ACQUIESCENCE TO THIS ARRANGEMENT THROUGH HIS OWN CHANNELS. SHOULD JAPANESE AGREE, ARRANGEMENT WOULD ALSO REQUIRE CONCURRENCE OF VIETNAM.

3. SCENARIO FOR GOVERNING COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF MATTER WOULD INCLUDE STATEMENT BY JAPANESE ANNOUNCING EARMARKING OF JAPANESE CONTRIBUTION AS PER ABOVE, FOLLOWED BY STATEMENT BY SALAS THAT SUCH EARMARKED FUNDS WOULD BE USED TO FUND POPULATION REDISTRIBUTION COMPONENTS OF VIETNAM PROJECTS. TEXT OF GOVERNING COUNCIL DECISION WOULD INCLUDE PHRASE "WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE REDISTRIBUTION COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT WOULD NOT BE FUNDED FROM THE GENERAL RESOURCES OF UNFPA BUT FROM THE EARMARKED CONTRIBUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN."

4. USDEL EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO SALAS FOR HIS EFFORTS TO FIND SOLUTION WHICH WOULD ACCOMMODATE U.S. CONCERNS AND SAID THAT IT WOULD TRANSMIT HIS PROPOSED SOLUTION TO DEPARTMENT.

5. COMMENT: WHETHER JAPANESE WILL AGREE TO SALAS' PROPOSAL IS UNCERTAIN. WE ARE INFORMED THAT AMBASSADOR ABE, JAPANESE PERMREP IN NEW YORK WITH WHOM UNFPA HAS CONFIDENTIAL

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BEEN IN CONTACT HAS REFERRED QUESTION TO TOKYO. SHOULD GOJ AGREE, ARRANGEMENT WOULD APPEAR TO MEET OUR CONCERNS SINCE NO PART OF GENERAL RESOURCES OF UNFPA (AND NO PART OF U.S. CONTRIBUTION THERETO) WOULD BE USED TO FINANCE COMPONENTS OF VIETNAM PROJECT DIRECTLY RELATED TO POPULATION REDISTRIBUTION. SINCE GOVERNING COUNCIL WOULD BE INFORMED OF ALL ASPECTS OF FUNDING OF PROJECT, ARRANGEMENT FOR USE OF EARMARKED JAPANESE FUNDS COULD NOT BE CHARACTERIZED AS "LAUNDERING". WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO PROPOSED ARRANGEMENT ASAP. NORRIS RETURNING WASHINGTON TODAY AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO BRIEF ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BARRY FRIDAY, JUNE 16. ITEM IS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION IN GOVERNING COUNCIL JUNE 19 BUT PROBABLY COULD BE POSTPONED FOR DAY OR TWO IF NECESSARY. VANDEN HEUVEL

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER MR. MCCALLIE S/S-O.

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